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Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 31 October 2011, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Mr. Zelioli (Vice-Chair) (Italy)**Contents**Agenda item 67: Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (*continued*)

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In the absence of Mr. Haniff (Malaysia), Mr. Zelioli (Italy), Vice-Chair, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

Agenda item 67: Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
(continued) (A/66/366-S/2011/584)

- (a) **Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance** (continued)
(A/66/18,* A/66/328)
- (b) **Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action** (continued) (A/66/313 and A/66/328)

Agenda item 68: Right of peoples to self-determination
(continued) (A/66/172 and A/66/317)

1. **Ms. Patel** (Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination), presenting the sixth report of the Working Group (A/66/317), said that the past year had seen a resurgence in the use of mercenaries. Some Governments had begun using foreign fighters against their own populations. The former President of Côte d'Ivoire had allegedly hired some 4,500 Liberian mercenaries after his electoral defeat in 2010, who were accused of committing grave human rights violations. Some had been arrested upon their return to Liberia, but the status of the prosecutions was not clear. The Working Group would visit Côte d'Ivoire soon to learn more. There were also reports that foreign fighters had been recruited in Libya to repress peaceful demonstrations in 2011. In Libya, immigrants were sometimes mistakenly identified as mercenaries solely on the basis of skin colour.

2. Private military and security companies continued to engage in a growing range of activities in an increasing number of countries, earning between 20 billion and 100 billion dollars a year. Spending on contracts and grants in Iraq and Afghanistan was expected to exceed 206 billion dollars by the end of fiscal year 2011, according to the August 2011 report of the *United States Commission on Wartime Contracting*. The United States Departments of Defense and State and the United States Agency for International Development had hired over 260,000 contractor

employees in 2010, compared to only 9,200 United States military contractors hired during the first Gulf War. The services of private military and security companies were also used by non-governmental organizations, private companies and the United Nations. The companies must be held accountable.

3. The May 2011 meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to consider the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies had been attended by representatives from 70 Member States, the African Union, the European Union, several United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The majority of participants had recognized the need for regulation of the activities of private military and security companies, possibly by an international convention.

4. The Working Group supported efforts such as the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers but was most concerned with developing a transparent grievance mechanism and rigorous audit procedures and with a human rights assessment of the type proposed by the former Special representative of the Secretary-General on business and human rights. The Code of Conduct could not ensure legal accountability for human rights violations.

5. Efforts by the authorities of Iraq and the United States had reduced the number of human rights incidents involving private military and security companies in Iraq. However, gaps in both countries' legislation had resulted in impunity for some violators. The legal immunity extended to private security contractors by the Coalition Provisional Authority had blocked prosecutions in Iraqi courts for many years and remained a source of problems.

6. The 2009 Status of Forces Agreement between Iraq and the United States had removed the immunity of some private foreign security contractors in Iraq. However, it was not clear whether that Agreement covered all contractors and whether it was fully applied in Iraqi courts. The Working Group had recommended that the legal situation be clarified and remained concerned about the lack of accountability for violations committed between 2003 and 2009.

7. Prosecutions in contractors' home countries had rarely been successful. A case against contractors who

* To be issued.

had allegedly killed 17 Iraqi civilians in Nissour Square, Baghdad, in 2007 was still pending in United States courts. During its 2009 mission to the United States, the Working Group had found uncertainty as to whether the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act, which extended jurisdiction to contractors that committed certain crimes overseas, covered contractors not working for the Department of Defense. That was important, as it was mainly Department of State contractors, such as Blackwater, which were accused of crimes in Iraq. The Working Group urged the United States to adopt legislation that would assure accountability. The Government had invoked the State secrets privilege and other immunity doctrines to block some civil lawsuits from being heard in United States courts. No national efforts to regulate private military and security companies had yet come close to achieving full accountability. Victims were rarely provided with an effective remedy.

8. **Ms. Valle Camino** (Cuba) said that her delegation would once again introduce a draft resolution taking note of the report of the Working Group on mercenaries and the report on the first meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental working group.

9. **Ms. Löw** (Switzerland) said that Costa Rica had recently announced its support for the Montreux Document, bringing to 37 the number of States who supported it. A draft law on private security and military firms was in the consultation phase in Switzerland. Further details were requested on the Working Group's plan to conduct a review of national laws on private security and military companies to identify good practices and on the participation of the Working Group in the second session of the intergovernmental working group in early 2012.

10. **Mr. Ndimeni** (South Africa) said that gaps identified during the Working Group visit to South Africa had been rectified through a law which would enter into force shortly. South Africans recruited for mercenary activities usually had dual nationality, and, in cases of casualties and deaths, their South African passports were often used, placing an undue burden on South Africa to repatriate remains.

11. There were no private military and security companies in South Africa. If the Working Group had information on such private companies operating abroad that were not registered in South Africa, it was

requested to provide that information to the Government. Mercenary activities must be prohibited in the territorial State. South Africa could not prosecute extraterritorially. Successful prosecution depended on territorial State cooperation. Information was requested regarding cases where Governments had been asked to provide remedies for victims of human rights violations committed by private military and security companies, especially where such activities were prohibited by law.

12. **Mr. Butt** (Pakistan) asked what specific steps the Working Group recommended to improve national legislation for States hiring military or private security companies.

13. **Ms. Patel** (Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination) said that the Working Group was studying national legislation to determine where it fell short and to develop a model for States. It would be difficult to devise one approach for all States, since those where private security and military companies were deployed and those where they were registered had different needs.

14. The International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries had very few signatories. States were urged to ratify it.

15. Speaking on behalf of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, who had recently resigned, she introduced his reports to the General Assembly (A/66/312 and 313) and summarized their findings and recommendations.

16. In the interim report (A/66/313), the Special Rapporteur had commended the Government of Hungary for efforts to fulfil its human rights obligations with regard to racism and related intolerance and identified areas which deserved specific action. The Special Rapporteur had also referred to structural discrimination; incitement to national, racial or religious hatred; extremist political parties and groups; and victims of racism, including people of African descent, Roma and members of communities based on caste or analogous systems of inherited status. Ethnically disaggregated data might be an important tool.

17. In the other report, on the inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (A/66/312), the **Special Rapporteur** praised legislative practices mentioned by some States, including the prohibition of racial discrimination, the inclusion of racist motivation as an aggravating circumstance and human rights training for law enforcement officers. States should comply with their obligations under article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. They should bring to justice the perpetrators of racist and xenophobic crimes and ensure that victims were guaranteed full access to effective legal remedies. Collection of data on racist crimes was key. Political leaders and parties should strongly condemn all messages of racial superiority or hatred.

18. **Ms. Sabja Daza** (Plurinational State of Bolivia) said that her country's Constitution prohibited racism. President Morales had promulgated an anti-racism law in 2010. The Government had established an anti-racism division, and the Ministry of Culture also worked to eliminate all forms of discrimination and racism through its decolonization and multiculturalism units. The country was firmly committed to the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

19. Palestine should be recognized as a Member State of the United Nations. All Palestinian prisoners should be released. There should be an end to illegal settlements on Palestinian land and to exclusion, exile and discrimination.

20. **Ms. Rasheed** (Observer for Palestine) said that the creation of illegal settlements throughout Palestinian territory was the most flagrant way in which Israel violated Palestinians' human rights. The existence of more than 100 new Israeli settlements with over 500,000 Israeli settlers, expropriating some of the best land and water resources and on the site of the proposed capital, indicated that the Government of Israel was interested neither in a two-State solution nor in peace and security. In the last three weeks, in the midst of serious diplomatic efforts by all parties, Israel had announced the construction of nearly 4,000 additional settlement units.

21. Israel must demonstrate its commitment to peace with actions, not merely empty words. The right of the

Palestinian people to self-determination was not negotiable. Negotiations on the core issues and the expression of Palestinian self-determination should not be considered one and the same.

22. The application of the State of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations was currently before the Security Council. After four decades of occupation and more than 60 years of dispossession, the international community must finally do right by the Palestinian people by supporting the realization of its inalienable rights.

23. **Mr. Ang** (Singapore) said that society in Singapore was based on the pursuit of a multiracial, merit-based society. Singapore had become a port of call for visitors from all regions. During the colonial period, the British had imposed separate ethnic communities. Race riots in 1964 had served as a reminder that harmonious race relations must be based on integration, not separation.

24. Integration, which was distinct from assimilation, had become central in Singapore. Diversity was celebrated, and private religious and personal spaces were guaranteed by law. There was a balance between rights and responsibilities and stern measures for those who incited hatred between communities. Integration in housing and other domains were part of State policy. Interfaith organizations had been established to build ties and develop trust. Inter-ethnic and interfaith issues were thus quietly resolved behind the scenes.

25. **Ms. Gunnarssdóttir** (Iceland) said that the struggle against racism must include a commitment to raise awareness. The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action transformed victims of discrimination into rights holders.

26. While the Constitution of Iceland prohibited racial, ethnic and other forms of discrimination, increased immigration to Iceland in recent years had made specific measures and legislation necessary. According to a 2009 survey, 57 per cent of the public thought that discrimination was common in Iceland. The Government had a plan of action on immigrant issues and the Ministry of Welfare had various policies as well.

27. There was a proposal for a parliamentary resolution to recognize Palestine as an independent State within pre-1967 borders. Iceland firmly

supported the application of Palestine to become a Member State of the United Nations.

28. **Mr. Razak-Sharif** (Malaysia) reiterated his country's firm support for the restoration of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and sovereignty and the property from which they had been displaced. Malaysia fully supported the right to an independent State of Palestine based on the two-State solution and taking into consideration both parties' security concerns. Malaysia had consistently condemned Israel's continuous military aggression. Violence, even under the pretext of ensuring security, would not contribute to positive developments or peace. Recent Israeli settlement plans were illegal and placed the two-State solution in jeopardy. Israel was urged to cease all settlement activities and all violations of international law, including the blockade of Gaza.

29. **Ms. Sobaihi** (Saudi Arabia) said that religious intolerance had increased. Freedom of expression should not serve as a pretext for such attacks. Increased efforts to propagate tolerance were needed in the face of growing Islamophobia.

30. Islam required its followers to revere all religions. Saudi Arabian laws aimed to prohibit racism and were based on sharia, which called for respect for diversity. State law criminalized support for organizations that incited hatred. A centre for national dialogue served as a mechanism for promoting respect for diversity. The King of Saudi Arabia had launched an initiative to promote dialogue among followers of different religions and cultures. He had also recently founded a centre for religious dialogue in Vienna to address the exploitation of religion to justify repression. The directors of the centre would be representatives of the world's major religions.

31. The clearest example of racism in the world today was the discrimination practiced by Israel, which evicted Palestinians from their land, was building a separating wall and demolished religious and archaeological sites, with a view to wiping out the identity of the Palestinian people.

32. **Mr. Zareian** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that some Western countries hypocritically claimed to advocate human rights but had not attended the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of

Action. All States should support the fight against racism and commit fully to the Durban documents.

33. The international community should take effective measures to ban the Islamophobic activities of right-wing political parties and adopt practical measures to combat other forms of racism. The international community must cease its indifference to the massive human rights violations committed against Palestinians by Israel. Peace would not prevail in the region as a whole until the State of Palestine was established.

34. **Ms. Sánchez** (Honduras) said that the first summit of people of African descent had been held in her country in August 2011, with strong support from her Government. The purpose of the summit, to which some 1,300 people of various nationalities had been accredited, had been to develop a common agenda to overcome social inequality. Participants had included Heads of State and representatives of United Nations agencies and programmes, the African Union, the European Union and the Organization of American States. It had been noted at the conference that, while the Durban documents were a source of hope for people of African descent, progress in their implementation had not been significant.

35. Honduras had ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, proclaimed a month honouring African heritage and established a ministry for the development of indigenous peoples and people of African descent. The United Nations was urged to declare an international decade of people of African descent starting in 2012 and to establish a development fund and permanent forum of people of African descent.

36. **Ms. Simovich** (Israel) said that Israel was a melting pot where people of many races came together. The Jewish people knew the evils of racism all too well. Many carried the living memory of the Holocaust, during which 6 million Jewish people had been murdered.

37. The Government of Israel had donated to a United Nations memorial to commemorate the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade. It acted decisively to promote tolerance and viewed that as a primary aim of the education system. The national curriculum focused on knowledge of the languages, cultures, history and traditions of Israel's minority groups and acknowledgement of the equal rights of all

Israeli citizens. Israeli law stated that offences motivated by racism could receive a sentence twice that meted out for the same offence not motivated by racial hatred.

38. Israel had not participated in the meeting to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, because the Durban Conference had been misused by some participants, becoming a vehicle for advancing hatred, anti-Semitism and prejudice against the State of Israel. The efforts of the United Nations against racism continued to be undermined by certain Member States for cynical political ends.

39. Israel was at the forefront of those who spoke out against racism. Those who were genuinely dedicated to combating racism in a professional manner would find a deeply committed partner in the State of Israel.

40. **Mr. Sugavanam** (India) said that his country's approach to racism had been shaped by its struggle for independence. The fight against racism, colonization and apartheid was a cornerstone of India's foreign policy. India had taken the lead in drafting the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

41. While the right to self-determination was a right of peoples in non-self-governing territories and trust territories, it should not be used to encourage secession and undermine pluralist and democratic States. Nor should it be used to undermine the territorial integrity of a State. India's support for the self-determination of the Palestinian people was unwavering. It supported their struggle for an independent viable State within secure borders at peace with Israel.

42. The representative of Pakistan had made numerous references to the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir. That State was an integral part of India, where free elections had been held repeatedly.

43. **Mr. Zeidan** (Palestine) said that Israel's longstanding practice of expelling indigenous Palestinians from their homeland and replacing them with Jewish settlers was an expression of racism. Since 1967, Israel had institutionalized colonial and apartheid-like policies aimed at controlling as much land as possible, inhabited by the smallest number of Palestinians possible.

44. Israel had illegally attempted to Judaize Jerusalem. Some 500,000 Jewish settlers had been

illegally transferred to nearly 225 Israeli settlements built on confiscated Palestinian land, in grave breach of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. As a result of such policies, the two-State solution remained elusive. The discriminatory practices of Israel affected every aspect of Palestinian life, including residency, water, electricity, roads, education, construction, tax collection, marriage and citizenship laws, identification cards and access to holy places. A Palestinian whose family had lived in Jerusalem for generations held temporary residency and could not be absent from the city for more than two years without losing residency. Palestinian children did not receive the same education as their Jewish neighbours. Palestinians did not have the right to make simple alterations to their houses, such as building a chicken coop or an additional floor. Palestinians could not access settler roads. A Palestinian could not take the shortest road to the nearest hospital but had to take a longer road to a more distant hospital. Israel was in persistent violation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. In recent years, there had been a rise in settler attacks against Palestinian civilian, property and crops. Hate crimes were committed against Palestinian mosques, churches and cemeteries by Israeli settlers under cover of night, with the protection of Israeli forces. Sites had been burned, and slurs and slogans had been written in the ashes.

45. **Mr. Bayoudh** (Tunisia) said that his country had ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and adopted the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action. Since its recent revolution, Tunisia was working to address social injustice. There was an ambitious programme to stimulate employment investment, regional development and social assistance to the needy.

46. Young illegal migrants were most vulnerable to human rights violations. That growing problem required a coordinated strategy involving all stakeholders. The international community must also address unemployment among young people. It must put an end to the injustices suffered by the Palestinians and other peoples under occupation.

47. **Mr. Abulhasan** (Kuwait) said that campaigns to defame any religion or persons on the basis of origin or religion should be prohibited. The Constitution of

Kuwait enshrined the principles of freedom and human rights. People of many nationalities and religions came to Kuwait to work. Democracy applied to daily life, and human rights were respected. The Government sought to combat xenophobia. Kuwait had acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, among others.

48. Israeli racist policies in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the Syrian Golan must be halted. Israel was in direct violation of the decision of the International Court of Justice on the construction of the separating wall. Religious sites in the area must be protected.

49. Kuwait was disturbed by the actions of groups such as skinheads that preached hatred of minorities.

50. **Mr. Ulibarri** (Costa Rica) said that the President of Costa Rica had offered an official apology to victims of discrimination. The slave trade was a crime against humanity with negative consequences today for descendants of the victims. Costa Rica had made a modest contribution to the memorial for victims of the slave trade and supported a speedy conclusion to negotiations on the Inter-American Convention against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance. An Afro-Costa Rican commission was being established and efforts were being made through the Ministry of Education to address gaps in national education on the social contributions of minorities.

51. **Mr. Šćepanović** (Montenegro) said that the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms ensured extensive institutional protection of human rights in Montenegro. The Protector's influence was increasing, as was his cooperation with civil society. A law adopted in July 2011 made him the national authority for combating discrimination and preventing torture, and an adviser on human rights had also been appointed recently within the office of the Prime Minister. There was a council for protection against discrimination chaired by the Prime Minister. Anti-discrimination awareness-raising was offered to law enforcement agencies and civil servants. A council of minority communities, a fund for minorities and a centre for minority cultures had been established. An action plan on the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people was being finalized.

52. **Mr. Nazarian** (Armenia) said that the right to self-determination was a binding, universally recognized fundamental norm of international law, which the people of Nagorny Karabakh had realized in full compliance with international law. Azerbaijan's policy of ethnic cleansing and brutal violence had caused the conflict. Hostilities had claimed tens of thousands of civilian lives and led to a refugee crisis. Azerbaijan was trying to launch a new war and was preaching hatred against Armenia. A recent report of the European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance had confirmed extreme levels of anti-Armenian feeling and urged Azerbaijan to ensure an adequate response to hate speech. The Minsk Group of the Conference for Security and Co-operation in Europe continued its efforts aimed at a peaceful settlement.

53. **Ms. Komanyane** (Botswana) said that a recent increase in racist violence in many parts of the world was cause for concern. Contemporary forms of racism were subtle and difficult to detect.

54. **Mr. Fiallo** (Ecuador) said that the Constitution of Ecuador enshrined the human rights of indigenous people, Afro-Ecuadorians and Montubians. They had the right to recognition, reparation and compensation for the consequences of racism. Recent reforms to the Penal Code established severe penalties for hate crimes. Broader social reforms aimed to eradicate poverty and exclusion and included unprecedented investment in health, education and other social protections.

55. An international decade, a permanent forum and a development fund for people of African descent should be declared, and a ninth Millennium Development Goal should be added: combating racism. Ethnicity should be more prominently featured in national census-taking as a basis for public policy.

56. **Mr. Laro** (Nigeria) said that Nigeria had been actively fighting racism since the adoption of the Durban Document and Programme of Action in 2001. While some of the Durban objectives had been achieved, its broad implementation was being undermined by developments not foreseen at its adoption. Racism was assuming new, insidious dimensions, which were perpetrated under the pretext of freedom of speech.

57. **Mr. Nina** (Albania) said that the entire Jewish community of Albania had survived the Second World

War. In fact, the Jewish population of Albania had actually increased tenfold during the War.

58. A law adopted by the Parliament of Albania in early 2010 assured the right of every person to equality and protection from discrimination. A new body established under the law was responsible for its implementation and for ensuring that everyone was properly informed about their right to protection from discrimination.

59. **Mr. Jafarov** (Azerbaijan) said that the principle of self-determination applied to peoples of colonially defined territorial units and people under alien subjugation or foreign military occupation. The right to self-determination could not be interpreted to mean that any group could decide for itself its own political status up to and including secession from an already independent State. International law was unambiguous in not providing for a right of unilateral secession from independent States and in not creating grounds for legitimizing non-consensual secession. An entity created on part of the territory of a State through the unlawful use of force was illegal and could not be considered a State.

60. In its attempts to legalize the results of the use of force and ethnic cleansing, Armenia frequently referred to the principle of the right to self-determination. However, all actions aimed at tearing away a part of the territory of Azerbaijan were unlawful. The separatist entity survived by virtue of Armenian support and was unrecognized by the rest of the world. In fact, Armenia bore primary responsibility for committing international crimes and purging its territory and the occupied territories of all non-Armenians.

61. **Ms. Klein Solomon** (International Organization for Migration) said that the emerging view that a multicultural society was driving communities apart was of concern. States were urged to counter such pressures. Migrants were sometimes erroneously perceived as competing against the national labour force. Restrictive immigration policies risked pushing migrants into the arms of smugglers and traffickers, further weakening the status of migrants in the host country. While States had the right to control their borders, they must also protect the human rights of all migrants under their jurisdiction, including those in irregular situations. The Organization could assist States in the development of policies to avoid

discrimination against migrants and promote awareness about diversity.

62. **Ms. Khanum** (Pakistan), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation's statement on the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people in Indian-occupied Kashmir had consisted merely of facts supported by Security Council resolutions. Contrary to what the representative of India had said, Kashmir was not an integral part of India but rather a disputed territory, settlement of which must be carried out under United Nations auspices. The references in the statement by the representative of Pakistan to the human rights situation in Indian-occupied Kashmir were well documented and were mostly quoted from the Indian media.

63. **Ms. Kocharyan** (Armenia), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the delegation of Azerbaijan continued to misrepresent the struggle of the people of Nagorny Karabakh for self-determination. Two decades earlier, the rape, torture and murder of Armenians by Azerbaijani forces had shocked the world. The people of Nagorny Karabakh had voted overwhelmingly for their own sovereignty and had used all available legal mechanisms for that purpose.

64. **Mr. Jafarov** (Azerbaijan), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the evidence showed that Armenia had unleashed the war by attacking Azerbaijan and occupying its territories and had engaged in massive ethnic cleansing. The Security Council and the General Assembly had qualified actions by the Armenian minority group as illegal use of force against the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. The illegality of the separatist entity had been stated unambiguously at the international level numerous times. The position of Armenia was an open challenge to the complex settlement process.

65. **Ms. Kocharyan** (Armenia), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, reiterated that the current situation in the region was the consequence of a decision by Azerbaijan to use military force to suppress the legitimate and peaceful quest of the people of Nagorny Karabakh to exercise their right to self-determination guaranteed by international law. Azerbaijan had violated Security Council resolutions urging the parties to pursue negotiations through intermediaries and direct contacts. Azerbaijan's refusal to engage in direct negotiations with the elected representatives of

Nagorny Karabakh and its hostile stance towards everything Armenian were the main impediments to a solution. The representative of Azerbaijan failed to acknowledge that Armenia had done exactly what the Security Council resolutions had called on it to do, by using its good offices with the leadership of Nagorny Karabakh to help find a peaceful solution.

66. **Mr. Jafarov** (Azerbaijan), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the comments by the representative of Armenia provided additional evidence of that country's annexationist intentions. Armenia had unlawfully used force to occupy the territory of a neighbouring country and had committed extremely serious war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.